

Hawaii MARINE

INSIDE

Security in PI	A-2
PTA	A-3
Every Clime & Place	A-4
Food Inspectors	A-5
MCCS Programs	B-1
MCCS and SM&SP	B-2
Center for the Aged	B-3
Crossword	B-4
Word to Pass	B-6
Youth Soccer	C-1
Sports Briefs	C-2
Health and Fitness	C-6

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July 19, 2002

Assistance fund helps base EFMP participants

Ed Josiah
EFMP Coordinator

The Exceptional Family Member Program was established to assist service members in providing for special needs of the family members before, during, and after relocation required by a change of duty assignment.

An Exceptional Family Member is defined as an authorized family member (spouse, child, stepchild, adopted child, foster child, or dependent parent) residing with the sponsor who possesses a physical, intellectual or emotional handicap and requires special medical or educational services.

One key element of the EFMP is the EFMP Assistance Fund.

This is a program that is established to maximize the effectiveness of available resources.

So, what difference does this make to you?

Well, this means that there is money available to EFMP members to cover such areas as critically needed childcare, therapeutic recreational activities such as swim lessons, equipment that cannot be funded by other means, and advocate projects designed for education, training and conferences.

So, how do you utilize this significant resource?

You must first be enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program, which is a very easy process.

First, make sure your family member is enrolled in DEERS, and then contact the MCBH EFMP Coordinator to obtain the necessary forms.

Once the forms are completed, return them to the EFMP Coordinator who will then forward them to Headquarters Marine Corps for review and processing.

Once enrolled, you can submit a proposal requesting the funds needed.

It's as easy as that!

This program is designed to ensure that our families are assigned to areas with the highest level of assistance and resources available.

For more information, contact Mr. Ed Josiah, 257-7783 or josiahec@mcbh.usmc.mil.



Sgt. Alexis Mulero

Private First Class Floyd W. Wesberry, ammo man with Golf Co., 2/3, lays down supportive fire while the maneuver team assaults its objective during HCAx 2002.

3rd MarDiv CG visits Marines

Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero
Combat Correspondent

POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA, Hawaii—Marines from the Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force 3, while training at here during Hawaii Combined Arms Exercise, received a special visit from the 3rd Marine Division commanding general, Brig. Gen. Joseph F. Weber, July 9.

This is Brig. Gen. Weber's first visit with Hawaii Marines since taking his current post on June 11.

"As a new commander, I wanted to visit my Marines at 1st Battalion, 12th Marines, 3rd Marine Regiment, plus give my thanks and appreciation to Combat Service Support Group 3 for all their support," said Brig. Gen. Weber.

During his visit, Brig. Gen. Weber stopped at all SPMAGTF-3 units, shaking hands and talking with Marines, Sailors and the multinational service members attached to the task force.

"The general's visit was unexpected for me, but it made me realize we play a bigger role in 3rd FSSG

than I thought," said Lance Cpl. John P. Shepard, small computer system specialist, Combat Service Support Detachment 77. "It was nice to see a General who takes time to visit troops."

While visiting SPMAGTF-3, Brig. Gen. Weber reminisced about times he spent on the lava rocks from 1975-1978.

"My biggest memory was getting lost at PTA as a young lieutenant," added Brig. Gen. Weber. "It was dark and we didn't have any [Global Positioning System] or chem. lights. Nobody has an excuse to get lost now."

Besides roaming old stomping grounds, he got to see first hand what his Marines can do out in the field.

He was especially fond of the interaction between the Marines and the foreign forces involved.

"Any operation for division units to train, engage and interact with friends and allies plus emphasize the combined arms training of a MAGTF, is great training," said Brig. Gen. Weber. "We all must train to be MAGTF Marines."



Sgt. Robert Carlson

Marines from VMFA-321 gathered on the flightline Saturday to discuss redeployment.

"Hornets" nest at MCB Hawaii

Sgt. Robert Carlson
Press Chief

The Hells Angels of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 321 left Hawaii Saturday after completing two weeks of intense training in support of the Rim of the Pacific Exercise on and around Oahu, and the Hawaii Combined Arms Exercise on the Big Island. The squadron deployed 106 Marines and one Sailor from its home field at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., and was completely self-supported throughout the training evolution.

Seven F/A-18A "Hornet" aircraft were the tools of destruction for the squadron, and according to Lt. Col. Robert Ballard, VMFA-321 commanding officer, MCB Hawaii provided excellent training opportunities for the squadron.

"This deployment was very beneficial to the pilots and crews, because it gave everyone a chance to operate in a forward-deployed environment, with very different weather conditions, high altitudes, and live ordnance," Ballard explained. "We had a lot going on during this exercise, and everyone really had to

See HORNETS, Page A-6

Scouting Makes a Difference in War-Torn Afghanistan's schools

Staff Sgt. Jerry Ray
MarCent Public Affairs

KABUL, Afghanistan – Today, 13 Kaneohe, Hawaii Girl Scouts changed the lives of more than 600 children here with a gift of Aloha and more than 1,700 pounds of school supplies.

It was a gift made possible through the combined effort of Kaneohe Girl Scout Troop 423, the U.S. Marine Corps and the American Embassy in Afghanistan.

Former Eagle Scout, Lt. Gen. Earl B. Hailston, Commanding General Marine Forces Pacific, headquartered at Camp Smith, Hawaii, was on hand to present the more than 60,000 items to the Alauddin Nursery, a combination orphanage and school.

"Thank you very much for having us here," said Lt. Gen. Hailston. "I'm

very proud to be here. I know I am in a military uniform, but I don't want you to see me today as a military person. I am here today to represent scouting from the United States, in particular the Girl Scouts. I, myself, am an Eagle Scout.

"Talking about the troop who collected the school supplies, Lt. Gen. Hailston said, "These supplies were collected by girls [12 years old and younger]. It is only fitting that children [12 years old and younger] be the ones to use them."

He went on to say he hopes this gift of supplies adds to the permanence of Afghanistan and the Afghanistan people because the education of today will have a lasting impact through the decades.

On hand to receive the supplies with the children and teachers was Abdul Habib Samim, President

of Orphanages, within the Afghanistan Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.

"[Today] is an occasion of pleasure and honor for us," said Samim, "that people from a great peace loving country are visiting us to support this orphan-

See SCOUTS, Page A-6



Staff Sgt. Jerry Ray

Lt. Gen. Hailston meets students who received new school gear from Hawaii's Girl Scouts.

MCCS enhances quality of life. See Page B-1 for details

MCBH NEWS BRIEFS

THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN OPEN ENROLLMENT ENDS JULY 31

The second TSP open enrollment season, the period when Marines and Sailors can enroll, ends July 31. Marines can enroll in the TSP via the Employee/Member Self Service (EMSS) web site at www.dfas.mil/emss, or by visiting their unit personnel office. Once enrolled, the Marine Online website at www.mol.usmc.mil, offers one-stop shopping for all TSP needs.

NEW IMMUNIZATION POLICIES GOVERN ALL 7TH GRADERS

Hawaii has new school immunization requirements for all 7th graders who attend school here.

The new law requires that all students entering the 7th grade must have completed the following vaccinations by the first day of school:

- 3 Hepatitis B,
- 2 MMR, and
- 1 or 2 Chickenpox (Varicella, or a physician-documented history of chickenpox disease).

A 7th grader may only attend school on the first day if their school has received one of the following:

- A yellow 7th grade Student Immunization Record card, signed by the student's doctor, indicating that he or she has completed all required vaccinations (or the documented history exception),
- A signed note from the doctor, indicating that the student has started but not yet completed the vaccination series, or
- A physician note indicating that the doctor does not currently have a supply of required vaccine and the student will be recalled when the shortage has improved.

Students who have not complied with the new school immunization requirements will not be allowed to attend school.

There are also new immunization requirements for children entering preschool and kindergarten, and children who are entering school for the first time ever in Hawaii.

Visit the DOH Web site at www.VaxToSchool.com or call 586-8323 for details.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

On-Base Emergencies	257-9111
Military Police	257-7114
Crisis Hotline	521-4555
Child Protective Services	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852
Business Management Hotline	257-3188

Hawaii MARINE

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Hawaii Marines keep Seabees safe in PI

Air Force
Maj. Richard Sater
JTF 510 Public Affairs

BASILAN ISLAND, Republic of the Philippines — They're always on the edge of the activity. Alert and aware, scanning the near and far horizons looking for the out-of-the-ordinary.

They are Marines, providing force protection on this island. They're unsung heroes, in a way, doing their job every day with little acclaim. But, that's precisely how they want it.

"If nothing happens, that's when you're successful," according to 1st Lt. Daniel Micklis, officer in charge of the Marine Security Element in the southwest section of Basilan.

"You can see the direct results," he said. When everything runs smoothly, "there's no conflict."

Micklis and his Marines - numbering about two dozen - are deployed here from Charlie and Weapons Companies, 1st Bn, 3rd Marine Regiment, from MCB Hawaii Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. They provide force protection for the Navy Seabees and Marine engineers at work on the island.

"There are more work sites here," Micklis said. "This is also the highest threat area."

The Seabees and Marine engineers are part of the U.S. Naval Construction Task Group. The NCTG builds bridges, drills wells and re-paves rutted roads — projects specifically designed to improve the accessibility of the island.

Marines, working with their Philippine counterparts, have been providing protection at the various job sites so Seabees and Marine engineers can concentrate on heavy construction. Even though the NCTG is wrapping up its projects and preparing for retrograde, the MSE is still on alert, moving from one location to another to provide security as the camps close down.

They've discovered that



Maj. Richard Sater

From left to right, Lance Cpl. Craig Corsi, a rifleman with Weapons Co., 1/3, Cpl. Jennifer Suizo, 18th Bn., Philippine Army, and Lance Cpl. Ryan Appleb, a rifleman with Weapons Co., 1/3, inspect a "jeepney" bus travelling through the Tipo Tipo Road work site.

the climate and the terrain here are similar to Hawaii's. "We practiced this. It's not much different here - only more humid," said Cpl. Mike Bohn. Still, even with the similarities, this is a real-world mission and not a training exercise.

The work requires not only physical but mental alertness as well.

The biggest challenge at first was "not keeping focus," said Lance Cpl. Jim Light. "Not thinking about what you're supposed to be thinking about." He admits that the sameness of the job can grow tedious at times, but he relies on his training — and discipline. "The biggest thing you learn is patience."

Because the work sites are located in communities, the Seabees have always had an audience while they worked. Having local citizens and children constantly at the sites — and near the camp gates as well — gives the Marines even more reason to remain alert to possible threats.

The challenges of the environment aren't the only new experience for these Marines.

This is also their first opportunity to work with Navy Seabees.

"They did their job and



Maj. Richard Sater

Above — Private First Class Christopher Burgos, a rifleman with Charlie Co., 1/3, stands guard on Tipo Tipo Road. Below — Lance Cpl. Ricky Counts, left, discusses communication procedures with Philippine Army Pfc. Paul Keyland-Santos.

we did ours," Light says. "They learned to respect us for what we did."

"It's a good experience," Micklis said of the joint deployment.

"It's a lot of responsibility for a young lance corporal or corporal to be in charge of a four-man fire team." The team leader assesses the threat, makes decisions, and chooses appropriate courses of action.

"They're learning who they are," Micklis said. "Even in a short time, I can see they've matured a lot. They've gained appreciation for the Marine Corps and for our trade by being in an actual threat zone."



Maj. Richard Sater

Eyes on speeders



Sgt. Robert Carlson

Lance Cpl. Andrew Read, a patrolman with the Military Police Department's Accident Investigation Division, helps slow traffic on Reed Rd. July 11, near the Armed Forces YMCA aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. Read, an Inactive Reserve Marine from Florence, Ky., was called back to duty six months ago, and is halfway through his tour at MCB Hawaii.

Committee established to address EFMP Issues

Ed Josiah
EFMP Coordinator

A Military Committee for Persons with Disabilities (MCPD) has been established onboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. This Committee is comprised of key base resource personnel from the Marine Corps community.

The MCPD was established to address issues and concerns of Marine Corps Exceptional Family Members stationed in Hawaii and to establish a committee designed to identify and present workable solutions that are executable within the base resources in order to be approved by the installation commander.

The end result is to make Marine Corps Base Hawaii a great place for

all Marine Corps and Navy families to live, work and raise a family. Minutes of the MCPD meeting are forwarded to the commanding general. The next meeting of the MCPD is scheduled for July 31, at 10 a.m.

The meeting will be held at the Base Chapel, Building 1090, Religious Education Room. All EFM sponsors and family members are invited and encouraged to attend. Sponsors are also encouraged to submit concerns and issues for discussion and inclusion on the agenda to the committee.

Items of concern can be forwarded to the Exceptional Family Member Program Coordinator, Mr. Ed Josiah, 257-7783 or josiahec@mcbh.usmc.mil.





Sgt. Alexis Mulero

Captain Michael F. Wilonsky, commanding officer, Golf Co. 2/3, radios in the company’s objective to the maneuver team during the Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise on the Big Island.

Kona Wind helps synchronize combined arms

Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero
Combat Correspondent

POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA, Hawaii — As the Marines, Sailors and allied-nation service members attached to Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force 3, trained here July 10, a known enemy tried to overtake the facility.

That was the scenario given to the more than 2,000 warriors participating in a Combined Live Fire Exercise (CALFEX) named “Kona Winds”.

The CALFEX was important to practice the integration of small arms, mortar fire, artillery, and close air support to compliment each other.

“You can’t throw a bunch of good football players on a team and within a week expect them to be a winner,” said Chief Warrant Officer-4 John L. Oberhauser, nuclear, biological and chemical officer for SPMAGTF-3. “In addition to living together, we have to train together, and go to the field together in order to learn how to compliment each other’s capabilities.”

In the days leading up to the exercise, Battalion Landing Team 2/3 and its supporting units worked around the clock to prepare for a training evo-

lution of this magnitude. “It’s through training that we’re able to accomplish live fire exercises such as this one,” added Oberhauser. “This was one of their graduating exercises.”

The exercise was divided into four distinct phases that defended, repelled and re-established the demilitarized zone (DMZ) located at the south eastern edge of PTA.

During the first phase, BLT 2/3 defended its sector while Weapons Co., 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance screened the task force’s security area.

Meanwhile, a notional offensive air support added depth to the battlefield and shaped the battle as the cannoneers of 1st Bn., 12th Marines, established a firing position in the area of operation.

“It’s very important for us to quickly establish a firing position so that as soon as the [infantrymen] need support, we can immediately accept the fire missions,” said Lance Cpl. David F. Smeltzer, fire direction controlman, Headquarters Battery, 1/12.

The BLT then engaged a mechanized infantry regiment supported by two mechanized battalions, driving them into kill zones of Close Air Support and field artillery.



Sgt. Alexis Mulero

Service members of the Tonga Defense Service patrol down lava road at PTA during the CALFEX on July 10.

Upon, reducing the enemy’s combat effectiveness to approximately 40 percent, they were then engaged by company level assaults, deteriorating the enemy’s combat effectiveness even greater.

This lack of combat effectiveness with the enemy’s diminished will to fight led to enemy withdrawal and enabled a deliberate defensive position to be established.

To conclude the exercise, SPMAGTF-3 consolidated in a defensive position, tying in with adjacent forces to once again establish the demilitarized zone.

“Our ability to synchronize combined arms is instrumental to the success of locating, closing with, and destroying our enemy,” explained Col. Joseph V. Medina, commanding officer SPMAGTF-3.

“This CALFEX proved the Marines and Sailors of the SPMAGTF-3 are prepared to engage any enemy, anytime, and anywhere.”



Sgt. Alexis Mulero

Master Sgt. Michael Holt, field artillery chief, Headquarters Battery, 1/12, fires off the last missile of his military career during the CALFEX July 10.

HCAX warriors celebrate Independence Day at PTA

Sgt. Alexis R. Mulero
Combat Correspondent

POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA, Hawaii — To all Americans, the Fourth of July is celebrated to recognize the privilege of independence, freedom, and liberty earned by our ancestors.

More than 226 years have passed since earning those liberties but recently, global terrorists have threatened the American virtues we have fought so dearly for.

To celebrate Independence Day, all training evolutions came to a halt and the hardworking service-members were treated to a hearty field banquet and a variety of sporting activities.

“It’s a break from the intense training, and we wanted to celebrate 226 years of freedom,” said Sgt. Maj. Tunu I. Tupuola, sergeant major of the SPMAGTF-3.



Sgt. Alexis Mulero

Service members from the Tonga Defense Service helped cook the 400-pound beast.

“We also wanted to re-energize the Marines prior to their involvement on more rigorous training.”

Military personnel from Australia, Korea, Singapore, and Tonga, who were also attached to the task force, joined the leathernecks and Sailors in the festivities.

In addition to helping us

celebrate, the Tongans acknowledged their own holiday — the coronation of HM King Taufa’ahau Tupou IV.

The food preparation for the feast began the day prior thanks to Master Gunnery Sgt. Teetai Nuusolia, operations chief for the SPMAGTF-3 and the members of the Tonga

Defense Service, who seasoned and roasted a 400-pound Pig.

The pig cooked for 12 hours, but before it was ready to be served, the commanding officer of SPMAGTF-3, Col. Joseph V. Medina, tasted it and exclaimed loudly “The beast is fit for the warriors’ consumption.”

Besides eating the pig, the hardworking warriors ate steaks, chicken, burgers, and other dishes complements of Marine Corps Community Services.

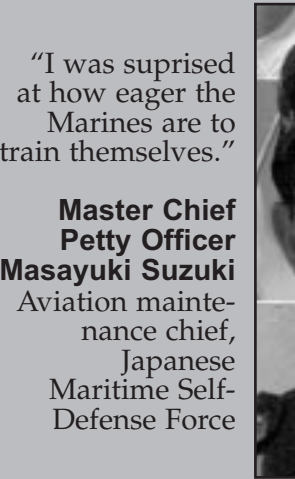
“The party was coordinated to boost morale and show the Marines a good time while training here,” said Staff Sgt. Tijani Harris, from MCB Hawaii’ MCCS, who was attached to Combat Service Support Detachment 77. “It’s amazing how morale soars when the Marines party after training out in the field.”

WORD ON THE STREET RIMPAC: “What did you like best about training in Hawaii?”



“...The blue ocean, blue sky, and it’s very nice weather for flying.”

Lt. j.g. Terumasa Pilot,
Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force



“I was suprised at how eager the Marines are to train themselves.”

Master Chief Petty Officer Masayuki Suzuki
Aviation maintenance chief,
Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force



“The local landscape is OK here.”

Master Corporal Vince McKernan
Avionics technician,
Royal Australian Air Force



“The mounatinous scenery.”

Sgt. Troy Norman
Avionics tech.,
Royal Australian Air Force



“The culture is very relaxed and laid back.”

Leading Aircraft Woman Samantha Richards
Supply clerk,
Royal Australian Air Force

EVERY CLIME AND PLACE

22nd MEU (SOC) Harriers Fly Combat Missions Over Afghanistan

Gunnery Sgt. Keith A. Milks
22nd MEU (SOC)

CENTRAL COMMAND AREA OF OPERATIONS — AV8B Harrier II attack aircraft of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) recently conducted combat operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom over the skies of Afghanistan.



Lance Cpl. Carl F. Schnauffer IV

An AV8B Harrier II of HMM-261 (Rein), the aviation combat element of the 22d MEU (SOC), roars off the flight deck of the USS Wasp en route to the skies over Afghanistan.

The Harriers attached to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 261 (Reinforced), the MEU’s aviation combat element, conducted the missions equipped with GBU-12 ‘Paveway’ laser-guided bombs and the Lightening II Pod targeting and surveillance system. The squadron was the first to deploy with the Lightening II Pod.

These missions marked its first use in a combat role by Marine Corps aviation. The system, designed as a targeting pod, can be used for reconnaissance, an asset the 22nd MEU hoped to capitalize, and these missions validated the tactics honed throughout the deployment. “It was good to finally be utilized in support of Operation Enduring Freedom,” said Capt. Michael J. Perez, a Harrier pilot from Jacksonville, Fla. “It was a little surreal.” The 22nd MEU (SOC) acts as a forward presence in the North Arabian Sea. They are based out of Camp Lejeune, N.C. and are on a scheduled six-month deployment which began in late February. For more information on the 22nd MEU (SOC), visit the unit’s website at www.22meu.usmc.mil.



Lance Cpl. Robert A. Sturkie

Staff Sgt. Eric C. Wilson, left, of North Providence, R.I., and Cpl. Jacob L. Beach, of Lakeville, Ind., make final adjustments to a GBU-12 ‘Paveway’ laser-guided missile loaded on an AV8B Harrier II prior to a mission over Afghanistan. Both Marines are ordnance technicians assigned to HMM-261 (Rein), the aviation combat element of the 22d MEU (SOC).

Food inspector keeps K-Bay Marines, Sailors, families safe

**Story and Photos by
Cpl. Jason E. Miller**
Combat Correspondent

“If it looks rancid and smells rancid, it’s probably rancid,” says Army Staff Sgt. Eric Newsome, the MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, veterinary food inspector specialist noncommissioned officer in charge.

The two food inspector specialists aboard K-Bay provide several services to the base that keep both the service members stationed here and their families in good health.

Mainly, their jobs consist of checking all inbound food to the base commissary and inspecting any Meals Ready to Eat or other field chow that Marines and Sailors consume while training.

At the commissary, two of the big items on the list for inspection are fresh meats and vegetables. It is up to the inspectors to tell not only if the food is fit for human consumption, but whether it’s a good enough product to sell in our commissary.

This helps to keep commissary shoppers safe, and allows them to get the best available products for their money, Newsome said.

“Our government contracts with the vendors allow us to inspect all of the food before it gets on the shelf here. This is a service that grocery stores out in town don’t have.

“You can’t be sure what you’re getting if you go off base to buy fresh goods, but if you buy at the commissary you know everything has been inspected.”

When it comes to tactical chow, such as MREs and other field rations, the inspectors must test the shelf-stable meals annually or semi-annually depending on their age.

While MREs can last years when stored the right way, Newsome said the biggest problem, and the reason most field chow goes bad, is because it’s stored in bad conditions.

Heat is the biggest spoiler of shelf stable meals.

The VFI specialists do a number of checks on meals before they decide whether or not they are fit for consumption.

The most conclusive results come from the taste tests.

“We basically have to taste every single product inside an MRE,” Newsome said. “Obviously if something’s rancid, I’m not going to try it. Ninety percent of what a VFI specialist does is common sense, but we have some excellent testing tools that we use also.”

The VFIs often work with inspectors from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and Naval Personnel from Branch Medical Center’s Preventative Medicine Department, who test food products and other items for bacteria and other discrepancies.



Staff Sgt. Eric Newsome, the MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, veterinary food inspector specialist noncommissioned officer in charge, checks the surface temperature of refrigerated meat and vegetables at the MCB Hawaii Commissary with a hand-held laser thermometer.

HORNETS, From A-1

put their game face on.”

Part of what made the training unique for the squadron was that it was the first HCAX and RIMPAC evolutions the Hells Angels have been part of. Targets on the ground were in close proximity to Marines and Sailors, and the pilots had the opportunity to work with 3rd Marine

Regiment air liaison officers and forward air controllers for the first time.

The training tested the logistical abilities of the squadron too.

“We put in a lot of hours making sure all of the aircraft were operational,” said Cpl. Stylianos Kutob, an operations clerk. “We self-deployed, and our supply chain from the rear was far, but when there were problems with any of the air-

craft, we were able to get right on it.”

This exercise was the first time many of the Marines had worked with the Navy in a forward-deployed environment.

“The Navy logistical support here was great,” said Sgt. Herbert Shannon, a VM-FA-321 embarkation specialist. “When we deploy, we’re always learning something new, and this time we learned that

the Navy here is very supportive.”

Shannon, a reserve Marine from Largo, Md., also qualified as a tan belt in the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program.

“Everyone got a lot out of this deployment,” said Ballard. “It also proved that we can take the entire squadron, pack it up, send it a very long distance, put a lot of ordnance on target, and re-deploy back to our base.”

SCOUTS, From A-1

age. We thank you for it.”

Collection and delivery of the supplies was not an overnight venture.

Collecting the supplies occupied the girls of Kaneohe Girl Scout Troop 423 for more than six months.

Delivery was facilitated through some coincidental flight schedules as some U.S. Marines were flown back overseas in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and it was coordination efforts of the American Embassy that made finding the school possible.

It was the teamwork of three very different organizations that allowed this presentation to happen according to Lt. Gen. Hailston.

“The girls ... wanted to make a difference,” said Laura Krupp, troop leader of Troop 423, “so we started our school supply drive.”

“We stood on corners, passed out flyers and talked to people about our project,” continued Krupp. “We had numerous drop off locations around the island to make it easy for people to donate the supplies.”

Troop 423 came up with the idea of collecting school supplies after hearing of two school girls in Afghanistan fighting over a pencil because school supplies were in such short supply.

“The Girl Scouts learn and hear that they are supposed to be doing somebody some good,” said Lt. Gen. Hailston, “and then they learn about children who need help in Afghanistan.

“[Scouting] teaches individuals to live by another code, a selfless code. [These Girl Scouts] have this instilled inside of them.”

As the supplies were passed out, some children from Alauddin Nursery recited poems and some sang anthems to the Marines that were there.

When asked if they had anything to say to the Girl Scouts who had donated the supplies, one group of children said to “give our regards to them, and thank them for their gifts. We ask that we not be forgotten.”